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S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 09 AMMAN 000234

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SUBJECT: SCENESETTER FOR THE VISIT TO JORDAN OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL BUCHANAN, COMMANDER 9TH AIR FORCE AND U.S. CENTRAL COMMAND AIR FORCES.

REF: AMMAN 8608

Classified By: AMB DAVID HALE FOR REASONS 1.4 (B AND D)

THIS MESSAGE IS SECRET NOFORN

1. (C) EMBASSY AMMAN IS LOOKING FORWARD TO YOUR VISIT 16-17 JANUARY 2006. JORDAN REMAINS ONE OF OUR STRONGEST SUPPORTERS FOR ALL ASPECTS OF REGIONAL ENGAGEMENT. YOUR VISIT WILL ALLOW YOU TO REITERATE TO THE JORDANIANS OUR CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO OUR JOINT EFFORTS TO COMBAT TERRORISM AND MAINTAIN REGIONAL STABILITY.

2. (C) YOU ARE SCHEDULED FOR OFFICE CALLS WITH GENERAL KHALID SARAIH AND HRH (LT GEN) FEISAL THEN LUNCH WITH THE ROYAL JORDANIAN AIR FORCE COMMANDER, MG HUSSEIN AL BISS. THE EVENING RECEPTION AT THE DATT'S RESIDENCE WILL HAVE MANY RJAF PERSONNEL IN ATTENDANCE.

3. (C) ON NOVEMBER 24 THE KING NAMED A NEW PRIME MINISTER, DIPLOMAT AND MILITARY VETERAN MAROUF BAKHIT, TO SUCCEED THE EIGHT MONTH-OLD GOVERNMENT OF FORMER PM ADNAN BADRAN. THIS GOVERNMENT CHANGE WAS PREVIOUSLY PLANNED, BUT BRIEFLY DELAYED BY THE NOVEMBER 9 BOMBINGS. ON DECEMBER 21, PARLIAMENT VOTED CONFIDENCE IN BAKHIT'S CABINET BY A COMMANDING MAJORITY VOTE OF 86-20. THE KING INSTRUCTED THE GOVERNMENT TO PURSUE THREE NEW BROAD SECURITY ISSUES: A) TIGHTEN COUNTERTERRORISM EFFORTS WHILE PROTECTING HUMAN RIGHTS; B) ACCELERATE POLITICAL REFORMS TO INCLUDE A NEW ELECTION LAW AIMED AT CREATING A MORE REPRESENTATIVE PARLIAMENT; AND C) ALLEVIATE POVERTY AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

THE U.S.-JORDANIAN RELATIONSHIP

4. (SBU) THE GOVERNMENT OF JORDAN PLAYS A KEY ROLE IN SOME OF THE TOP NATIONAL PRIORITIES OF THE UNITED STATES.

- (S) JORDAN IS ONE OF OUR MOST IMPORTANT PARTNERS IN THE WAR AGAINST TERRORISM. THE JORDANIAN AND U.S. SECURITY SERVICES HAVE EXCELLENT COLLABORATIVE RELATIONS. THIS RELATIONSHIP HAS BEEN FURTHER STRENGTHENED IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE SUICIDE BOMBING ATTACKS AT THREE HOTELS IN AMMAN ON 9 NOVEMBER. SOME HERE ARE CALLING THE ATTACKS "JORDAN'S 9-11." THE POPULATION HAS UNITED BEHIND THE KING IN HIS SEVERE CONDEMNATION OF THE ATTACKS AND INTENT TO STRIKE BACK. PUBLIC OPINION HAS SHIFTED DRAMATICALLY AGAINST UBL AND ZARQAWI, WHO PREVIOUSLY ENJOYED FAVORABLE RATINGS. THIS MAY GIVE THE GOJ INCREASED LEVERAGE IN GAINING INTERNAL PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR SECURITY MEASURES. SINCE THE BOMBINGS, SECURITY INCREASED DRAMATICALLY AT PUBLIC FACILITIES SUCH AS SHOPPING CENTERS, BANKS, HOTELS AND GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS.

- (S) JORDAN PROVIDED CONCRETE LOGISTICAL AND POLITICAL SUPPORT IN THE RUN-UP TO OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM (OIF), AND CONTINUES TO HOST TRAINING FOR IRAQI POLICE, MILITARY PERSONNEL, AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS, CENTRAL BANK EXPERTS, AND OTHER GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL. JORDAN'S PROXIMITY TO IRAQ, REASONABLE TRAVEL COSTS, AND EXPERIENCED TRAINERS MAKE IT A NATURAL CHOICE FOR TRAINING PROGRAMS CONDUCTED OUTSIDE IRAQ. THE USG INVESTED A GREAT DEAL IN THESE FACILITIES AT A TIME WHEN WE HAD FEW OTHER OPTIONS TO GET TRAINING STARTED RAPIDLY. THEIR CONTINUED USE WILL BE IMPORTANT TO MINIMIZE THE PER-HEAD COST OF THE TRAINING, TO EXPOSE IRAQI TRAINEES TO AN ARAB MODEL OF POLICING AND SECURITY THAT IS MARKEDLY DIFFERENT FROM THE SADDAMIST STYLE, AND TO ANCHOR IN A PRACTICAL WAY A CRITICAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN IRAQ AND AN ARAB ALLY AND NEIGHBOR. THE KING AND OTHER JORDANIAN LEADERSHIP ARE VERY EAGER FOR U.S. ASSISTANCE IN FACILITATING THE JORDANIAN-IRAQI RELATIONSHIP. THEY ARE INTERESTED IN BRINGING MORE IRAQI LEADERS TO JORDAN, TO BUILD UPON RELATIONS AND TO SHOW IRAQIS FIRST HAND HOW MUCH JORDAN IS DOING TO PROMOTE IRAQI SECURITY. THE KING'S PUBLIC STATEMENTS IN SUPPORT OF THE LAST MINUTE AMENDMENTS TO THE IRAQI CONSTITUTION, AND HIS ENCOURAGEMENT TO ALL SECTORS OF IRAQI SOCIETY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE IRAQI POLITICAL PROCESS, WERE IMPORTANT VISIBLE STEPS IN JORDAN'S POLITICAL SUPPORT FOR IRAQ.

- (C) KING ABDULLAH AND THE GOJ HAVE WORKED SINCE THE END OF OIF TO REESTABLISH TIES WITH THE NEW IRAQI

GOVERNMENT AND EMERGING IRAQI INSTITUTIONS. IN THE FIRST VISIT OF A SENIOR ARAB OFFICIAL TO IRAQ SINCE THE FALL OF SADDAM, THEN-JORDANIAN PM ADNAN BADRAN, ACCOMPANIED BY FOUR OTHER CABINET MINISTERS, MET IN BAGHDAD SEPTEMBER 10 WITH IRAQI VICE PRESIDENT ABDEL ABDUL MEHDI AND PRIME MINISTER IBRAHIM JAAFARI. IRAQI INTERIOR MINISTER BAYAN JABR VISITED JORDAN SEPTEMBER 30. ON OCTOBER 27-28, IRAQI PRIME MINISTER IBRAHIM JAAFARI MET WITH KING ABDULLAH AND SENIOR GOJ OFFICIALS IN AMMAN. IN EARLY DECEMBER, JORDAN'S NEW PRIME MINISTER MAROUF BAKHIT CALLED FOR INCREASED COOPERATION WITH IRAQ, INCLUDING THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION TO COMBAT TERRORISM.

- (S) JORDAN REMAINS AN IMPORTANT, POSITIVE FACTOR IN THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN EQUATION. BEYOND JORDAN'S OBSERVANCE OF ITS 1994 PEACE TREATY WITH ISRAEL - REGARDED AS A CORNERSTONE OF JORDAN'S NATIONAL SECURITY STRATEGY -- JORDANIAN SECURITY AND MILITARY SERVICES WORK CLOSELY WITH THEIR ISRAELI COUNTERPARTS, ALTHOUGH THIS RELATIONSHIP STAYS LARGELY OUT OF SIGHT. THE GOJ RECENTLY RENEWED ITS OFFER TO PROVIDE TRAINING IN JORDAN FOR PALESTINIAN SECURITY FORCES.

- (S) JORDAN SHARES OUR CONCERNS ABOUT SYRIA, AND SUPPORTS OUR POLICY AND INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS TO FOCUS PRESSURE ON SYRIA TO CHANGE ITS BEHAVIOR. AT THE SAME TIME, THERE IS GOJ CONCERN ABOUT STABILITY IN SYRIA, AND ABOUT THE SYRIAN REGIME'S REPEATED MIS-STEPS IN REACTION TO EVENTS. JORDANIAN OFFICIALS MAY SEEK YOUR ASSESSMENT OF SYRIA'S LIKELY REACTION TO RECENT DEVELOPMENTS.

- (C) JORDAN WAS ONE OF THE ARAB WORLD'S PIONEERS IN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL REFORM; A GROUP OF ADVISORS APPOINTED BY THE KING HAS FORMULATED A COMPREHENSIVE NEW PROGRAM FOR POLITICAL REFORM, THE NATIONAL AGENDA. JORDAN'S PARLIAMENT, DOMINATED BY EAST-BANK TRADITIONALISTS, IS LIKELY TO CONTINUE ITS RESISTANCE TO POLITICAL CHANGE, HOWEVER. THE POWERFUL EAST BANK MINORITY HERE VIEWS WITH SUSPICION ANY STEP THAT MIGHT GIVE UNDER-REPRESENTED JORDANIAN-PALESTINIANS A DOMINANT POLITICAL POSITION.

15. (SBU) THE VERY CLOSE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE U.S. AND JORDANIAN GOVERNMENTS IS NOT REFLECTED IN JORDANIAN POPULAR OPINION. AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY, ESPECIALLY ON THE PALESTINIAN ISSUE AND ON IRAQ, IS PERCEIVED NEGATIVELY AMONG ORDINARY JORDANIANS AS IT IS IN THE REST OF THE REGION, THOUGH THERE ARE RECENT HOPEFUL INDICATIONS THAT JORDANIAN PUBLIC OPINION MAY BE SWINGING TOWARD MORE POSITIVE VIEWS OF THE U.S.

16. (SBU) THE FY 2005 U.S. BUDGET PROVIDED \$204 MILLION IN FOREIGN MILITARY FINANCING (FMF) FOR JORDAN. THE FY 2005 SUPPLEMENTAL PROVIDED \$100 MILLION IN FMF AND \$99 MILLION FOR THE KING ABDULLAH SPECIAL OPERATIONS TRAINING CENTER (KASOTC). IN ADDITION, AT THE END OF JULY, DOD PAID JORDAN \$97 MILLION IN COALITION SUPPORT FUNDS (CSF) TO SETTLE JAF CLAIMS FOR COSTS INCURRED IN CONNECTION WITH OIF AND ITS AFTERMATH. THE FY 2005 BUDGET ALSO INCLUDED \$250 MILLION IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE. THIS WAS ENHANCED BY A \$100 MILLION SUPPLEMENTAL. DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE WAS ROUGHLY SPLIT BETWEEN CASH TRANSFER AND PROJECT ASSISTANCE. THE PROJECT SECTORS RECEIVING THIS ASSISTANCE INCLUDED WATER AND THE ENVIRONMENT, ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY, AND SOCIAL SECTORS - ENCOMPASSING EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE. THE PROGRAMMED FY06 FMF BUDGET IS \$210 MILLION BUT MAY BE DECREASED SLIGHTLY IN RESCISSION.

ISSUES THE JORDANIANS MAY RAISE

17. (S) DURING DISCUSSIONS WITH SENIOR JORDANIAN OFFICIALS, SOME OF THE ISSUES BELOW MAY ARISE; YOU MAY WISH TO DRAW ON THESE POINTS IN REPLY.

(U) SECDEF DONALD RUMSFELD VISITED JORDAN ON DECEMBER 23, 2005 THE SECRETARY SAW THE JORDANIAN COUNTER TERRORISM (CT) TRAINING CENTER, WHERE HE SPOKE WITH U.S. AND JORDANIAN TRAINERS AND IRAQI CT STUDENTS. HE WAS PRESENTED AN OVERVIEW OF THE FUTURE SITE OF THE \$99M KING ABDULLAH SPECIAL OPERATIONS TRAINING CENTER (KASOTC).

(S) SHORTLY AFTER THE SUICIDE HOTEL BOMBINGS IN NOVEMBER, THE GOJ SUBMITTED AN EMERGENCY COUNTER TERRORISM ASSISTANCE REQUEST TO THE U.S. THIS REQUEST WAS PREFACED WITH JORDAN'S POSITION AS A CONTINUING PROMINENT TARGET FOR AQ AND ASKED FOR IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE IN ORDER TO ADDRESS THIS THREAT. THE REQUEST SPECIFICALLY ASKED FOR 338USD IN "EMERGENCY FINANCIAL AID AND ASSISTANCE" IN A

DDITION TO THAT ALREADY BUDGETED, TO ADDRESS "THE MOST IMMEDIATE AND CRITICAL NEEDS" OF JORDAN. THE DETAILED REQUEST WAS FOR SPECIFIC EQUIPMENT, TRAINING, AND OTHER ASSISTANCE RELATED TO DETERRENCE, DETECTION, FORCE PROTECTION, CRISIS MANAGEMENT AND RESPONSE, INVESTIGATIVE AND FORENSICS ASSETS, AND DRILLS AND EXERCISES. THE INTERAGENCY CONTINUES TO EVALUATE HOW TO RESPOND TO THIS REQUEST, WHICH RECEIVED SOME INITIAL SUPPORT FROM THE WHITE HOUSE.

(S) NEW RJAF SECURITY CONCERNS - SINCE LATE SUMMER, SENIOR RJAF PERSONNEL HAVE CONVEYED THEIR CONCERN FOR RESPONSE PLANNING IN THE CASE OF SUICIDE AIRCRAFT ATTACKS IN THE KINGDOM. IT IS UNCERTAIN WHETHER THIS INCREASED EMPHASIS IS BASED ON ANY SPECIFIC INTELLIGENCE REPORTING OR THREAT BUT IT SEEMS TO CENTER ON THE POSSIBILITY OF A SUICIDE ATTACK FROM A HIJACKED PLANE FLYING INTO POPULATED OR SENSITIVE AREAS OF AMMAN. THE RJAF HAS REQUESTED ASSISTANCE FROM THE U.S. AND UK TO COUNTER THIS THREAT. RJAF HAS ALSO INCREASED ITS AIR DEFENSE ALERT POSTURE SINCE LATE AUGUST AND TRANSFERRED MOST OF THIS MISSION TO THE F-16 SQUADRON. THERE ARE ALSO ROYAL JORDANIAN AIR FORCE CONCERNS ABOUT MARKA AIRPORT'S PHYSICAL SECURITY, ESPECIALLY SINCE THE NOVEMBER HOTEL SUICIDE BOMBINGS. RJAF LEADERS HAVE INTERPRETED A DIRECT THREAT FROM AMZ TO THEIR BASES DUE TO THEIR SUPPORT TO U.S. OPERATIONS IN IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN AND SINCE AMZ WARNED JORDANIANS TO STAY AWAY FROM MILITARY FACILITIES. RJAF IS ATTEMPTING TO TRANSFER SOME JAF NIGHT VISION DEVICES TO RJAF, OSTENSIBLY TO HELP THEM SECURE FACILITIES. THESE THREAT CONCERNS MAY ALSO BE CONTRIBUTING TO JAF PRESSURE TO MOVE MOST FIXED WING OPERATIONS FROM MARKA TO QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT IN THE NEAR TERM. WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED THIS MOVE IS IMMINENT, BUT THE COMPLEX LOGISTICAL PROBLEM OF MOVING ALL OF THE SUPPORT FACILITIES AND OPERATIONS FOR FIXED WING ACTIVITY FROM MARKA LEADS US TO BELIEVE THIS WILL BE SEVERAL YEARS DOWN THE ROAD. THERE HAS BEEN A LONG-TERM GOAL TO RELOCATE ALL CARGO AND VIP FLIGHTS TO QUEEN ALIA AIRPORT. RJAF HELICOPTER OPERATIONS WOULD REMAIN AT MARKA AIRPORT. WE ARE STILL COLLECTING SPACE REQUIREMENTS AND TIMELINES FOR THE RELOCATION AS IT PERTAINS TO OUR OPERATIONS. HOWEVER, A FORCED MOVE IN THE NEAR TERM MAY REQUIRE MONEY TO CONSTRUCT FACILITIES IN SUPPORT OF OUR AIR OPERATIONS CURRENTLY BEING RUN OUT OF MARKA.

- (C) TRAINING FOR IRAQIS - THE FUTURE OF THE U.S. -BUILT JORDAN INTERNATIONAL POLICE TRAINING CENTER (JIPTC) FACILITY IS OF GREAT INTEREST TO THE GOJ. OUR BILATERAL AGREEMENT STIPULATES THE FACILITY WOULD BE HANDED OVER TO THE GOJ WHEN THE TRAINING OF NEW IRAQI POLICE FORCES ENDS IN FEBRUARY 2007. WITHIN THE USG, THERE ARE CURRENTLY INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS UNDER WAY OF PROPOSALS WHICH WOULD INCLUDE THE CONTINUATION OF U.S.-JORDANIAN COOPERATION ON TRAINING, BEYOND THE END OF THE IRAQ MISSION, OF THIRD COUNTRY POLICE CADETS AT A REGIONALIZED JIPTC. WE CAN EXPECT FULL JORDANIAN COOPERATION.

- (C) LISTED BELOW ARE SOME OF THE MORE NOTABLE TRAINING PROGRAMS, EITHER ONGOING OR CONDUCTED RECENTLY WITH THE POTENTIAL FOR FUTURE TRAINING:

- JORDAN INTERNATIONAL POLICE TRAINING CENTER (MORE THAN 24,000 IRAQI POLICE CADETS TRAINED TO DATE)
- NEW IRAQI ARMY TRAINING (1,978 TRAINED BY JORDANIAN ARMY)
- IRAQI COUNTER-TERRORISM FORCE (ICTF) TRAINING (JORDANIAN SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND)
- TRAINING FOR IRAQI AIR FORCE PILOTS AND CREWS OF THE IRAQI AIR CORPS (JORDANIAN AIR FORCE)
- ADVANCED MILITARY STUDIES FOR IRAQI OFFICERS (JORDANIAN NATIONAL DEFENSE COLLEGE AND NATIONAL COMMAND AND STAFF COLLEGE)
- TRAINING FOR IRAQI AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS AND AVIATION INSPECTORS (JORDANIAN CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY)
- TRAINING ON BANK INSPECTIONS AND OPEN-MARKET OPERATIONS (CENTRAL BANK OF JORDAN)
- INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TRAINING PROVIDED TO SEVERAL IRAQI MINISTRIES (E.G., HEALTH, EDUCATION, PLANNING)
- FOOD INSPECTION TRAINING (JORDANIAN FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION)
- TRAINING OF IRAQI NURSES/STAFF NURSES (JORDANIAN MINISTRY OF HEALTH)
- CENSUS TRAINING (DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS)

- (C) IN ADDITION TO THESE GOJ-AFFILIATED PROGRAMS,

THE PRIVATE SECTOR IS ALSO CONDUCTING CONSIDERABLE TRAINING IN JORDAN.

- (S/NF) MILITARY INTELLIGENCE TRAINING FOR IRAQIS - GEN SARAIHEH, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE JORDANIAN JOINT STAFF HAS OFFERED ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS WITH VISITING VIPs TO TRAIN INDIVIDUAL IRAQI INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS OR HELP THEM ESTABLISH THEIR OWN DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY INTELLIGENCE (DMI). NEITHER THE IRAQI MINISTRY OF DEFENSE NOR MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR HAS RESPONDED; OUR UNDERSTANDING IS THAT THE NEW IRAQI GOVERNMENT PREFERS THAT ANY NEW TRAINING INITIATIVES TAKE PLACE INSIDE IRAQ.

- (U) U.S. AIR FORCE TRAINING FOR JORDAN - THE JORDANIAN ARMED FORCES HAS CONTINUOUSLY HAD A DIFFICULT TIME IN FINDING QUOTAS IN THE U.S. AIR FORCE COURSES IT REQUIRES. AS OF 1 JANUARY 2006, IT DID NOT HAVE SEATS IN 55 OF 131 OR 42% OF THE COURSES IT REQUESTED FOR FY 06. THIS COMPARES TO 25% FOR U.S. NAVY COURSES AND JUST 13% FOR U.S. ARMY COURSES. THIS HAS PARTICULARLY IMPACTED THE ROYAL JORDANIAN AIR FORCE, WHICH DEPENDS HEAVILY ON U.S. AIR FORCE TRAINING TO PROFESSIONALIZE ITS FORCE AND PROVIDE TECHNICAL TRAINING UNAVAILABLE IN JORDAN. AN AREA OF DEEP CONCERN AT PRESENT IS THE LACK OF AVAILABILITY OF SLOTS IN THE FLIGHT SAFETY OFFICER'S COURSE AND THE JET ENGINE MISHAP INVESTIGATOR'S COURSE. AS IT DEVELOPS ITS OWN SAFETY CENTER, THE RJAF IS COUNTING ON DEVELOPING A CADRE OF OFFICERS WHO HAVE BEEN TRAINED IN THE U.S. AND THIS LACK OF AVAILABILITY IS SLOWING THEIR EFFORTS. THE LACK OF SLOTS IN AIR FORCE COURSES ALSO MAKES IT MORE DIFFICULT FOR JORDAN TO FULLY UTILIZE ALL OF ITS IMET BUDGET. BY THE TIME THE AIR FORCE SECURITY ASSISTANCE TEAM (AFSAT) INFORMS THE MAP TRAINING OFFICER THAT NO SLOTS ARE AVAILABLE, IT IS VERY DIFFICULT TO REALLOCATE THE FUNDS.

- (S) ROYAL JORDANIAN AIR FORCE (RJAF) - MAJOR GENERAL HUSSEIN AL-BISS CONTINUES TO PURSUE THE F-16 MID-LIFE UPGRADE (MLU) AS A PRIORITY RJAF PROGRAM. JORDAN IS IN THE MIDST OF TRANSFERRING 17 F-16 AIRCRAFT TO TASLA AIRCRAFT INTERNATIONAL (TAI), A TURKISH AEROSPACE FIRM, TO PERFORM THE MLU ON THE RJAF F-16 AIRCRAFT. WE ARE WAITING FOR CONCURRENCE FROM THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE THIRD PARTY TRANSFER OF THE AIRCRAFT AND THE COMMENCEMENT OF WORK IN TURKEY. TAI WILL PERFORM DEPOT STRUCTURAL ENHANCEMENTS, UPGRADES TO THE COCKPIT, AND AIRCRAFT ELECTRONICS UPGRADE OF THE JORDANIAN F-16 PEACE FALCON II FLEET. THE MLU WILL ALSO ENABLE THEM TO EMPLOY THEIR RECENTLY APPROVED ADVANCED MEDIUM RANGE AIR-TO-AIR MISSILE (AMRAAM) WEAPONS, SIGNIFICANTLY ENHANCING THE RJAF'S AIR DEFENSE CAPABILITIES. ALONG WITH THE PROVISION FOR POTENTIALLY ADDING LINK-16 CAPABILITIES (RELEASABLE IN PRINCIPLE TO JORDAN) TO THEIR MLU FLEET, THESE ASSETS SIGNIFICANTLY ENHANCE THE RJAF'S COMBAT AIR FORCE'S INTEROPERABILITY WITH OTHER COALITION AIR FORCES. RJAF LEADERSHIP REMAINS FOCUSED ON MODERNIZING ITS FORCE STRUCTURE BY EVENTUALLY DECREASING OR SELLING OFF ENTIRELY ITS EXPENSIVE F-1 MIRAGE INVENTORY, AND A LARGE PROPORTION OF ITS F-5 TIGER II FLEET, AND TO STAND UP ANOTHER F-16 FALCON SQUADRON.

- (SBU) AFTER A THREE YEAR HIATUS, WE RECENTLY RECEIVED ANOTHER U.S. AIR FORCE PILOT IN THE PERSONNEL EXCHANGE PROGRAM (PEP). HE COMPLETED 20 MONTHS OF ARABIC LANGUAGE TRAINING AND IP SCHOOL. HE WILL BE HERE FOR TWO YEARS IN THIS IP CAPACITY. RJAF CONTINUES TO INQUIRE AS TO THE ARRIVAL OF THE PEP MAINTENANCE OFFICER. THIS POSITION HAS BEEN VACANT FOR 10 MONTHS NOW AND IT WOULD PAY BIG DIVIDENDS TO FILL IT. WE APPRECIATE ANY HELP YOU CAN PROVIDE IN THIS MATTER. AT THE END OF JANUARY WE WILL RECEIVE OUR REPLACEMENT EXTENDED TRAINING SERVICE SPECIALIST (ETSS) TO CONTINUE OUR CLOSE AND VALUABLE OPERATIONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE JORDANIAN F-16 SQUADRON. THE PREVIOUS ETSS INSTRUCTOR PILOT MADE A LARGE IMPACT ON RJAF F-16 SAFETY AND OPERATIONAL READINESS.

- (S) PRINCE FAISEL CONTINUES TO ADVOCATE THE ACQUISITION OF AN ADDITIONAL F-16 SQUADRON IN LIEU OF F-1'S. RJAF HAS CONTINUED TO EXPRESS INTEREST IN ADDITIONAL U.S. EDA AIRCRAFT OR POTENTIALLY IN PURCHASING AIRFRAMES FROM A EUROPEAN SOURCE. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THE JORDANIANS FULLY UNDERSTAND THE POTENTIAL ADDITIONAL COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH MODIFICATIONS REQUIRED AFTER PURCHASING EUROPEAN F-16'S. RJAF CONTINUES TO RECEIVE A GOOD PORTION OF JORDAN'S FMF DOLLARS, MUCH OF IT NOW GOING TO THE CURRENT F-16 MID LIFE UPGRADE PROGRAM. THE JAF FIVE YEAR PLAN DOES NOT CURRENTLY ALLOCATE ANY FUNDING FOR PURCHASING ADDITIONAL F-16 AIRCRAFT. WE EXPECT

THE RJAF TO GRADUALLY SEEK OPPORTUNITIES AND RESOURCES TO EXPAND ITS SKILL SET BEYOND AIR DEFENSE INTO GROUND SUPPORT MISSION AREAS. JORDAN SIGNED THE CASE INITIATING AIRCRAFT ACCEPTANCE FROM AMARC. RJAF CONTINUES TO EVALUATE OPTIONS FOR TRANSPORTING AMARC AIRCRAFT TO JORDAN. THEY ARE AWARE THAT THE COSTS OF FERRYING IS SIGNIFICANTLY HIGHER THAN THE COST OF PACKING AND CRATING TO SHIP. THEY ALSO KNOW THEIR LIABILITY FOR MISHAPS EN ROUTE IS MUCH GREATER IF THEY CHOOSE TO FLY THEM. THIS DECISION SHOULD BE MADE SOON AND WILL BE REFLECTED IN AN AMENDMENT TO THE CASE. THEY ARE STILL DETERMINING IF THEY WILL CRATE THE FRAMES (LESS EXPENSIVE) OR FLY THE FRAMES TO TAI.

- (S) THE RJAF IS ALSO CONSIDERING SEVERAL SYSTEMS TO MODERNIZE THEIR AGING AIR DEFENSE ARTILLERY UNITS. THIS INCLUDES VEHICLE-MOUNTED STINGER PLATFORM FIRING UNITS, AVENGER FIRING UNITS, OR EXCESS DEFENSE ARTICLES (EDA) CHAPARRAL MISSILE FIRING UNITS. THE RJAF IS SEEKING TO ENHANCE SHORT-RANGE AIR DEFENSE PROTECTION IN CONJUNCTION WITH THEIR MEDIUM RANGE HAWK MISSILE SYSTEM, AND TO REPLACE AGING RUSSIAN SA-7 AND SA-8 SYSTEMS. THEY WILL, HOWEVER, HAVE TO SIGNIFICANTLY REPROGRAM FMF MONIES, OR FIND NATIONAL FUNDING, TO ACQUIRE THESE SYSTEMS.

- (S/NF) COUNTER-TERRORISM - THE U.S. AND JORDAN CONTINUE EXTENSIVE COOPERATION ON CT AND INTELLIGENCE ISSUES. THE KING ABDULLAH SPECIAL OPERATIONS TRAINING CENTER (KASOTC) IS THE CENTERPIECE OF THAT COOPERATION. KING ABDULLAH'S CONCEPT FOR DEVELOPING HIS SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES TO COUNTER THE TERRORIST THREAT GAINED MOMENTUM WITH THE FY 2005 SPECIAL APPROPRIATION. \$99 MILLION IN SUPPLEMENTAL ASSISTANCE WAS DESIGNATED TO ESTABLISH THE KASOTC. THE GOJ IS MOVING FORWARD WITH PLANS TO MAKE THE KASOTC A STATE OF THE ART FACILITY FOR SOF TRAINING FOR JORDAN, THE U.S. AND OTHER COUNTRIES. ADMINISTRATIVE DELAYS IN ESTABLISHING APPROPRIATE GROUND RULES WITHIN THIS UNIQUE PROJECT, INTERAGENCY STAFFING ISSUES AND REQUIREMENTS FOR INFORMING CONGRESS HAVE RESULTED IN SOME CONCERNS ON BOTH SIDES REGARDING THE ABILITY TO COMMIT THE \$99M BEFORE THE MONEY EXPIRES IN SEPTEMBER 2006. IN RECENT PROGRAM PROGRESS, JORDAN SIGNED THE LETTER OF OFFER AND ACCEPTANCE TO BEGIN THIS PROGRAM ON 23 NOVEMBER 2005 AND THE FUNDS WERE RELEASED TO DSCA. THE PROJECT WILL BE MANAGED BY THE ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS UNDER THE FOREIGN MILITARY SALES SYSTEM, AND \$7.1M HAS BEEN ALLOCATED TO THE ACOE TO COMMENCE INITIAL DESIGN AND CONTRACTING ACTIVITIES. THE RELEASE OF THE REMAINING \$91M IS CONTINGENT ON THE APPROVAL OF THE POLITICAL-MILITARY AGREEMENT BY BOTH SIDES. THIS AGREEMENT CONCERNS THE USE OF THE FACILITY, RELEASE OF TACTICS, TECHNIQUES AND PROCEDURES, AND OTHER SENSITIVE ISSUES. THE AGREEMENT HAS BEEN UNDER REVIEW BY THE OSD GENERAL COUNCIL FOR OVER A MONTH, HEIGHTENING CONCERNS BY BOTH SIDES THAT THE MONEY WILL EXPIRE. THE MAIN FACILITY OF THE KASOTC WILL BE LOCATED IN YAJOUZ, NEAR JORDANIAN SOCOM JUST OUTSIDE AMMAN. A COMPLEMENTARY FACILITY FOCUSED ON MARITIME SOF MISSION TRAINING WILL BE LOCATED IN AQABA. ACOE HAS AN AMBITIOUS PLAN WHICH HAS BEEN RIGOROUSLY SCRUTINIZED AND SHOULD ALLOW FOR GROUND-BREAKING THIS SUMMER WITH FULL OBLIGATION OF FUNDS ON TIME. FUNDING FOR FUTURE OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE, AS WELL AS JAF DESIRES FOR ADDITIONS TO THE FACILITY, REMAIN AS ISSUES IN THIS PROJECT. JORDAN WILL LIKELY SEEK ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR THE FACILITY AND FOR ITS OPERATIONS FROM THE USG.

- (S) IN ADDITION TO THE CREATION OF THE KING ABDULLAH SPECIAL OPERATIONS TRAINING CENTER (KASOTC), JORDANIAN EFFORTS TO TRAIN IRAQI CT FORCES HAVE BEEN PROFOUND. A TOTAL OF 532 STUDENTS GRADUATED FROM THE LAST SIX CLASSES. DURING HIS VISIT IN OCTOBER 2005, LIEUTENANT GENERAL DEMPSEY ALLOCATED FUNDS FOR REFURBISHMENT OF KEY FACILITIES INVOLVED IN THE ICTF TRAINING, AND WORK ON THOSE PROJECTS IS UNDERWAY.

- (S) BORDERS - BORDER CONTROL REMAINS AN IMPORTANT CONCERN FOR THE GOJ. JORDAN IS IMPLEMENTING A BORDER SECURITY PROGRAM WITH U.S. GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE. JORDANIAN AUTHORITIES ARE ESPECIALLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE POROUSNESS OF THEIR BORDERS WITH SYRIA AND SAUDI ARABIA. CONCERNS WITH THE SYRIAN BORDER CONTINUE TO SLOW JORDAN'S IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 1997 OTTAWA TREATY BANNING LANDMINES. UNTIL THE PLANNED SENSOR AND COMMUNICATIONS PACKAGE IS FULLY FUNDED AND DEPLOYED, THE GOJ WILL NEED TO MAINTAIN NATIONAL FORCES ALONG ITS BORDERS. THE COMPLEX AND AMBITIOUS C4ISR PROGRAM WILL GREATLY INCREASE INTEROPERABILITY WITH THE COALITION AND THE EFFECTIVENESS OF JORDANIAN OPERATIONS FROM THE NATIONAL TO THE UNIT LEVEL. AS THE JAF COMES TO TERMS WITH DIFFICULTIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE MANAGEMENT, FUNDING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MASSIVE C4ISR PROJECT, THE INTEGRATION OF THE

BORDER SECURITY PROGRAM SHOULD ELIMINATE REDUNDANCY AND MUTUALLY BENEFIT BOTH PROGRAMS. THERE HAVE BEEN SIGNIFICANT PROBLEMS AT THE TREBIL CROSSING POINT ON THE IRAQ BORDER IN TERMS OF MAINTAINING THE FLOW OF TRAFFIC, ILLEGAL ENTRIES, AND CONTROLLING SECURITY. A JORDANIAN MOI OFFICIAL INDICATED THAT WITHOUT USG SUPPORT ON THE IRAQI SIDE OF THE BORDER, THE IRAQIS WOULD HAVE LITTLE CONTROL. WE UNDERSTAND FORMER PM BADRAN RAISED THIS ISSUE DURING HIS VISIT IN BAGHDAD, AS WELL AS THE GOJ'S BELIEF THAT ALTERED DOCUMENTS AND LICENSE PLATES ARE BECOMING MORE COMMON AMONG IRAQIS SEEKING ENTRY INTO JORDAN. THE GOJ IS TAKING NEW SECURITY MEASURES AT THE BORDER TO PREVENT INFILTRATION BY FOREIGN MILITANTS, INCLUDING X-RAY SCREENING OF SELECTED PERSONAL VEHICLES, AND IMPROVED LIGHTING. THE JAF WILL LIKELY ASK FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR THEIR C4ISR INITIATIVE DESPITE RECEIVING AN FMF SUPPLEMENTAL IN 2005 FOR THE C4ISR, TO CONTINUE TO ADDRESS THESE BORDER CONCERNS.

- (S) PEACE KEEPING OPERATIONS - JORDAN POSSESSES ONE OF THE BEST PEACEKEEPING TRAINING FACILITIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST - THE PEACE OPERATIONS TRAINING CENTER (POTC) IN ZARQA. JORDAN TRAINS ITS PEACEKEEPERS PRIOR TO DEPLOYMENT TO ONE OF THE MANY JORDAN-SUPPORTED UN PEACEKEEPING MISSIONS, WHICH INCLUDE THE MISSION IN HAITI WHERE JORDAN HAD ONE BATTALION SINCE LATE 2004 AND ADDED A SECOND BATTALION IN SEPTEMBER 2005. IN ADDITION, JORDAN USED THE FACILITY TO TRAIN OVER 800 U.S. SERVICE MEMBERS IN CULTURAL AWARENESS PRIOR TO THEIR DEPLOYMENT TO IRAQ. THERE ARE PLANS TO CONTINUE THIS TRAINING IN THE NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS. MOREOVER, JORDAN ALSO TRAINS INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPERS AND U.N. STAFFERS AT THE CENTER. JORDAN WOULD LIKE TO EXPAND THE FACILITY TO CREATE A PEACEKEEPING CENTER OF EXCELLENCE (PKCOE) WHERE THEY COULD TEACH PEACEKEEPING, INTERNATIONAL LAW, AND PEACE ENFORCEMENT IN A REALISTIC ENVIRONMENT. THEY ESTIMATE THE COST OF THIS NEW CENTER WOULD BE JUST OVER \$3M. THERE HAS BEEN NO U.S. FUNDING ALLOCATED TO THIS LARGER PROJECT TO DATE. ARMY CENTRAL COMMAND (ARCENT) HAS BEEN THE KEY U.S. AGENCY SUPPORTING THE POTC, AND IT RECENTLY APPROVED EXERCISE RELATED CONSTRUCTION WORTH \$500K FOR A DUAL USE FACILITY - EXERCISE AND PEACEKEEPING - THAT THE JORDANIANS ARE VIEWING AS A FIRST STAGE TO THE PKCOE. NEARLY ALL EQUIPMENT IN THE CURRENT POTC MAIN BUILDING WAS PURCHASED USING FUNDING FROM THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S ENHANCED INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING CAPABILITY (EIPC) PROGRAM. THIS EQUIPMENT WILL BE MOVED TO THE NEW FACILITY, AND ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT WILL ALSO BE PURCHASED WITH EIPC FUNDS.

- (S/NF) DEFENSE INDUSTRIES - JORDAN HAS LONG SOUGHT THE CAPACITY TO SUPPORT ITS OWN DEFENSE EQUIPMENT NEEDS IN ORDER TO ECONOMIZE ON MAINTENANCE, PARTS AND R&D, AND TO DEVELOP INCOME-GENERATING DEFENSE EXPORTS. THIS LONGSTANDING EFFORT HAS NOW BEEN MARRIED TO THE KING ABDULLAH II DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT BUREAU (KADDB). FROM INTERCHANGEABLE BARREL HAND GUNS, TO DESERT ASSAULT VEHICLES, KADDB HAS WORKED TO LIMIT JORDAN'S RELIANCE ON FOREIGN ARMS IMPORTS WHILE SEEKING OTHER, PRIMARILY REGIONAL, CUSTOMERS. MOREOVER, THE REBUILD FACILITY ASSOCIATED WITH KADDB OVERHAULS THE ENTIRE JORDANIAN MECHANIZED FLEET, AND HAS THE POTENTIAL TO BECOME A REGIONAL REBUILD FACILITY.

- (S) FIELD HOSPITALS - IN ADDITION TO SUPPORTING COALITION FORCE OPERATIONS IN IRAQ WITH THE CONTINUING DEPLOYMENT OF A FIELD HOSPITAL, A JORDANIAN MILITARY HOSPITAL CONTINUES TO OPERATE IN AFGHANISTAN. JORDANIAN HOSPITAL SUPPORT AND SOF TROOPS CONDUCTED A ROTATION AT MAZAR-E-SHARIF IN DECEMBER 2005. JORDAN ALSO OFFERED TO SEND TWO FIELD HOSPITALS AND FORENSICS TEAMS TO THE U.S. IN ORDER TO SUPPORT RECOVERY EFFORTS AFTER HURRICANE KATRINA. THOUGH WASHINGTON EXPRESSED OFFICIAL APPRECIATION FOR THE OFFER, IT WAS DECLINED FOR LEGAL AND TECHNICAL REASONS. JORDAN CONTINUES TO PROVIDE FIELD HOSPITALS OR MEDICAL TEAMS TO VARIOUS UNITED NATIONS MISSIONS INCLUDING IN THE WEST BANK, ERITREA, SIERRA LEONE, IVORY COAST, SUDAN AND LIBERIA. THE GOJ HAS ALSO SENT MEDICAL SUPPORT TO PAKISTAN TO INCLUDE A FIELD HOSPITAL IN SUPPORT OF EARTHQUAKE RECOVERY. JORDAN HAS ALSO OFFERED VARIOUS HUMANITARIAN SUPPLIES TO PAKISTAN, WHICH WILL BE DELIVERED USING U.S. MILAIR. SEVERAL COALITION SUPPORT FUNDING REIMBURSEMENTS, INCLUDING MOST OF THE HOSPITAL CLAIMS ARE CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW BY OUSD(C). BECAUSE JAF FINANCES ARE SO TIGHT, THEY ARE INQUIRING MORE ABOUT THEIR UNPAID COALITION SUPPORT FUNDING HOSPITAL CLAIMS WHICH APPROACH \$100M.

- (S/NF) MILITARY EXERCISES - THE U.S. AND JORDAN CURRENTLY CONDUCT TWELVE BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL

EXERCISES EACH YEAR. THIS IS THE MOST ACTIVE EXERCISE SCHEDULE IN THE CENTCOM AOR. GENERAL SARAIH HAS LONG SOUGHT THE ADDITION OF ANOTHER "MINI BRIGHT STAR" EXERCISE WITH A CT FOCUS. IT IS UNLIKELY THAT THE JORDANIANS COULD ADEQUATELY SUPPORT AN ADDITIONAL EXERCISE. HOWEVER, WE ARE CURRENTLY PLANNING TO FOCUS NEXT YEAR'S EARLY VICTOR SOF EXERCISE ON CT, AND THE SOCCENT COMMANDER IS DEVELOPING THE CONCEPT TO CREATE MULTILATERAL FORCE TRACKING ASPECTS OF ONGOING SOF OPERATIONS INTO THE EXERCISE. GEN SARAIH REQUESTED U.S. CONSIDERATION FOR THE ADDITIONAL EXERCISE DURING THE JMC, AND WAS TOLD THAT THERE ARE NO PLANS TO INCREASE THE CURRENT EXERCISE PROGRAM FOR JORDAN.

- (S) MILITARY COOPERATION - JORDAN-U.S. MILITARY COOPERATION IS BROAD AND DIVERSE. THE DECISION TO CONTINUE ON-GOING EXERCISES IN JORDAN THIS SUMMER DESPITE THE ROCKET ATTACK IN AQABA WAS HIGHLY APPRECIATED BY THE JORDANIAN MILITARY AND POLITICAL LEADERSHIP. THE JAF LEADERSHIP SENT A VERY STRONG SIGNAL IN TERMS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF OUR RELATIONSHIP BY REMAINING IN WASHINGTON TO FINISH THE JOINT MILITARY COMMISSION (JMC) DESPITE THE ATTACKS IN AMMAN WHICH OCCURRED DURING THE INITIAL DAY OF THE MEETINGS. SENIOR JAF LEADERSHIP ARGUES JORDAN NEEDS SECURITY ASSISTANCE FUNDING FOR THE MODERNIZATION THEY REGARD AS NECESSARY TO ADDRESS OUR FUTURE REQUESTS FOR THEIR SUPPORT IN THE REGION AS WELL AS FOR INCREASING THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO THE WAR ON TERRORISM. 2005 MARKS A BANNER YEAR IN TERMS OF U.S. MILITARY GRANT ASSISTANCE FOR JORDAN. THESE FUNDS TOTALED APPROXIMATELY ONE HALF BILLION DOLLARS THIS YEAR (SEE PARA 5). MAP JORDAN WILL CONTINUE TO ADVOCATE MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL PROGRAMS, BUT THIS HIGH LEVEL OF FUNDING IS NOT LIKELY TO MATERIALIZE AGAIN SOON. JORDAN SOUGHT ASSURANCES OF CONTINUED OUT-YEAR FINANCING AT THESE LEVELS DURING THE JMC, AND HABITUALLY DOES SO IN TALKS WITH SENIOR U.S. LEADERSHIP. THE JAF ASKED FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR SEVERAL NEW OR EXPANDED PROJECTS AT THE JMC WHICH ARE NOT FUNDED WITHIN THE EXISTING FIVE YEAR PLAN. THESE INCLUDE A \$180M MULTI-YEAR SIMULATIONS PROGRAM, \$101M OF REMAINING UNFUNDED C4ISR, A \$50M CRISIS MANAGEMENT RESPONSE CENTER, ADDITIONAL \$45M FOR BORDER SECURITY, \$55M IN COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS WARFARE EQUIPMENT AND \$25M FOR VARIOUS AIR FORCE UPGRADES. SECRETARY RODMAN ASSURED THE JAF THAT THEY CONTINUE TO BE A PRIORITY FOR USG SUPPORT AND MILITARY ASSISTANCE, BUT REINFORCED THE BELIEF THAT THEIR FMF BASE LINE WILL REMAIN AT AROUND \$205M. THE PRESIDENT HAS SIGNED THE 2006 FOREIGN OPERATIONS APPROPRIATIONS ACT WHICH ALLOCATES \$210M IN FMF, AND \$250M IN ECONOMIC SUPPORT FUNDS FOR JORDAN.

- (U) MILITARY EDUCATION AND TRAINING - JORDAN HAS THE SECOND LARGEST INTERNATIONAL MILITARY EDUCATION AND TRAINING (IMET) PROGRAM IN THE WORLD, RECEIVING \$3.014 MILLION IN 2005. IN ADDITION, IN 2005 IT RECEIVED THE SECOND LARGEST ALLOCATION IN THE WORLD FOR THE COUNTER-TERRORISM FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM AT \$1.44 MILLION. JORDAN SENT 40-50 STUDENTS TO THE STATES UNDER THIS PROGRAM FOR EACH OF THE LAST THREE YEARS, INCLUDING SIX STUDENTS PER YEAR TO THE NATIONAL DEFENSE UNIVERSITY'S COUNTER TERRORISM FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM. IT IS ALSO AN ACTIVE PARTICIPANT IN NUMEROUS OTHER TRAINING PROGRAMS, TO INCLUDE SEMINARS SPONSORED BY THE NEAR EAST - SOUTH ASIA (NESA) CENTER FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES AND THE GEORGE C. MARSHALL CENTER FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES. IN FY 2005, JORDAN SENT APPROXIMATELY 300 STUDENTS TO TRAINING IN THE U.S., AND HAD AN ADDITIONAL 110 STUDENTS TRAINED IN JORDAN BY U.S. MOBILE EDUCATION TEAMS. ONE RECENT IMET GRADUATE, 1LT ROHA MOHAMMED ODEH ALLAHAWEH WAS SEVERELY INJURED IN THE RADISSON SAS BOMBING.

- (S) SINGLE INTEGRATED AIR PICTURE - THE LOCKHEED MARTIN CONTRACT FOR THE INTEGRATION OF THE AIR PICTURE HAS WOUND TO A CLOSE. THE PRIMARY FOCUS OF THE EFFORT WAS ON LINKING THE FPS-117 AND TWO TPS 77 RADARS. AFTER DIFFICULT AND EXTENSIVE NEGOTIATIONS AND WORK, THE USAF PROGRAM MANAGERS VERIFIED LOCKHEED MARTIN PASSED THE SITE ACCEPTANCE TEST AS DEFINED BY THE CONTRACT. HOWEVER, RJAF LEADERSHIP CONTINUES TO EXPRESS DISMAY WITH THE PROGRAM RESULTS. RJAF WANTS MORE FUNCTIONALITY (TO INCLUDE BETTER RADIO SYNC, LESS DATA CONGESTION, AND SIAP MODE RECORDING) WHICH WAS NOT SPECIFICALLY PART OF THE CONTRACT. USAF PROGRAM MANAGERS ADVOCATED ON BEHALF OF RJAF FOR LOCKHEED MARTIN TO SUPPORT RJAF REQUESTS AS POSSIBLE AND DID MANAGE TO GET RJAF MORE OUT OF THE DEAL THAN ORIGINALLY ENVISIONED. WHILE THE SYSTEM HAS SOME WARRANTY COVERAGE REMAINING, RJAF FAILED TO PLAN OR

ALLOCATE FUNDS FOR RADAR SYSTEM SUSTAINMENT AFTER WARRANTY EXPIRATION. THIS REMAINS AN UNFUNDED REQUIREMENT AND RJAF MAY ASK YOU FOR HELP IN MAINTAINING THESE SYSTEMS.

- (S) THE ROYAL JORDANIAN NAVY - THE RJN IS ENGAGED IN BORDER CONTROL AND CONTINUES TO WORK CLOSELY WITH ITS RED SEA NEIGHBORS ISRAEL, EGYPT AND SAUDI ARABIA, TO COMBAT SMUGGLING AND TO ENFORCE MARITIME LAW IN THE GULF OF AQABA. JORDAN RECENTLY FORMALLY JOINED THE PROLIFERATION SECURITY INITIATIVE. THE JAF HAS INSTALLED NEW BORDER OBSERVATION SITES THAT ENHANCE TECHNICAL MEANS TO MONITOR AND SUPPORT THE LANDWARD CONTROL OF JORDAN BORDERS IN THE VICINITY OF AQABA. THE SECURITY OF THE PORT HAS BEEN IMPROVED WITH THE ACQUISITION OF SEA FORWARD LOOKING INFRA-RED (FLIR) AND OTHER NIGHT VISION DEVICES. THE JAF IS IN THE PROCESS OF DEVELOPING A COUNTER-SMUGGLING PLAN. THE KING AND JAF REMAIN COMMITTED TO UPGRADING RJN EQUIPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE. THE RECENT DELIVERY OF FMS-PROCURED PATROL BOATS AND ZODIACS, AS WELL AS INCREASED AMOUNT OF ALLOCATION FOR THE RJN IN THE FIVE YEAR PLAN, INDICATE THE KING'S SUPPORT FOR THE ROYAL JORDANIAN NAVY. THE KING ALSO COMMITTED NEARLY USD 50M TO UPGRADE THE NAVAL BASE AT AQABA. THE BASE CONSTRUCTION PROJECT INCLUDES A PIER CAPABLE OF HANDLING TWO U.S. CRUISER-CLASS WARSHIPS OR ONE U.S. JFK CLASS AIRCRAFT CARRIER. OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONIES FOR THE NAVAL BASE ARE SCHEDULED FOR THE END OF JANUARY 2006 AND A U.S. SHIP VISIT IS PLANNED FOR SHORTLY THEREAFTER. EXERCISE-RELATED CONSTRUCTION (ERC) FUNDS HAVE ALSO BEEN ALLOCATED FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE BASE, INCLUDING TWO LANDING CRAFT AIR CUSHION (LCAC) RAMPS; A LIVE-FIRE SHOOT HOUSE; A VESSEL BOARD SEARCH AND SEIZURE EXERCISE MOCK UP; AND, A WASH RACK FOR VEHICLES. NAVCENT IS ALSO PROJECTING AN LCAC CONTROL TOWER FOR FY06 TO COMPLETE THE PROJECTS THERE. THESE IMPROVEMENTS WILL SUPPORT U.S. FORCES DEPLOYED TO JORDAN FOR EXERCISE AND CONTINGENCY PURPOSES.

18. (C) OUR MILITARY-TO-MILITARY RELATIONSHIP AND ACCESS REMAIN EXCELLENT. THE JAF WILL CONTINUE TO LEVERAGE THIS RELATIONSHIP TO GAIN ADDITIONAL RESOURCES. WE FEEL THEIR CURRENT CONTRIBUTIONS TO STRATEGIC REGIONAL GOALS MERIT THE SIGNIFICANT ASSISTANCE THEY ARE RECEIVING. WE CONTINUE TO ADVISE THE JAF THAT EXPECTATIONS OF INCREASED MILITARY ASSISTANCE ARE, HOWEVER, INCONSISTENT WITH OUR BUDGET REALITIES. ADDITIONALLY, WE ARE FORCING THE JAF TO BE REALISTIC IN BALANCING ITS FIVE YEAR PLAN BY ELIMINATING PREVIOUSLY PLANNED PROJECTS IN ORDER TO FUND DESIRED NEW INITIATIVES. THE USG MUST CONTINUE TO EVALUATE THE IMPORTANCE OF THE STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP WITH JORDAN, AND JORDAN'S COMMITMENT TO U.S. REGIONAL AND GLOBAL INITIATIVES. BASED ON THIS CALCULUS, WE SHOULD CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THOSE EFFORTS WITH APPROPRIATE ADJUSTMENTS TO OUR LEVEL OF FINANCIAL AND OTHER SUPPORT. THE RECENT ATTACKS MAY PROVIDE ADDITIONAL AMMUNITION FOR US TO USE IN LEVERAGING AN INCREASED LEVEL OF SUPPORT FOR JORDAN. THE GOJ IS STANDING SOLIDLY BESIDE THE USG IN ITS REGIONAL EFFORTS. IT HAS BEEN POLITICALLY DIFFICULT FOR THEM TO MAINTAIN THIS SUPPORT, AND JORDAN HAS NOW PAID DEARLY ON ITS OWN SOIL.

19. (C) JORDAN'S LEADERSHIP SINCERELY SUPPORTS U.S. REGIONAL EFFORTS AND THE WAR ON TERRORISM. SENIOR OFFICIALS YOU MEET WILL AFFIRM JORDAN'S COMMITMENT TO OUR ONGOING PARTNERSHIP AND WILL THANK YOU FOR AMERICA'S SUPPORT TO JORDAN.

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